CITY OF IDAHO FALLS

Office of the Mayor
City Hall
308 Constitution Way
Idaho Falls, ID 83405

Jared D Fuhriman
Mayor

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the City of Idaho Falls, I would like to welcome all of you to our community. Looking over your agenda for the next few days, it looks like you will certainly remain busy. However, I would not be doing my job if I did not invite all of you to also enjoy the many fine amenities we have to offer, and hope that in your spare time, you will visit the Museum of Idaho, the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, our fine selection of restaurants, and of course, right outside this hotel, our beautiful Greenbelt along the Snake River. So please enjoy your stay.

Idaho Falls Power (IFP) has certainly been on the cutting edge of technology, constantly staying ahead of the curve and providing not only reliable but inexpensive power to our customers. I am very proud of the men and women who make up IFP—they are dedicated and have made a tremendous difference over the last several years. Let me briefly review some of the areas that our local utility has been involved in:

In 2000, IFP, working with Invensys, upgraded its SCADA system to increase utility wide reliability and efficiency. In 2005, IFP completed construction of a city wide fiber optic network. IFP then upgraded the SCADA communication network utilizing that system. Employing the fiber network, IFP implemented a video surveillance system at the Hydro-electric plants and power substations, again improving system reliability and efficiency.

In 2008, IFP implemented an automated outage management system, thus vastly improving outage management and restoration capability. In 2009, IFP upgraded The SCADA system to a windows based system, again increasing system efficiency and reliability. Additionally, this windows based system would allow for future integration with other utility infrastructures.

In 2010, IFP was selected to participate in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration project – a five year mission designed to test and demonstrate new technologies.

In 2011, IFP also commenced on a five year project to upgrade the city's metering system to allow two way communication and implementing an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. This arrangement will improve system reliability, efficiency, and allow IFP to work with its customers to better manage their energy usage.

Today, the utility industry is facing some very unique challenges: Cyber security is definitely a major concern along with increasing demand for energy, the need to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, integrating renewable resources onto the system, and finding new base load generation resources to supply the ever increasing demand. Although challenging, it is also a very exciting time to be part of the

energy team in finding solutions to making us self-sufficient in the future. We are fortunate with the Idaho National Laboratory where we can partner and tap into their cyber security operations and obtain valuable information to assist in our local efforts. After all, we are Americans—and we can do anything if we put our efforts into such a goal.

IFP will also be integrating its utility systems, SCADA, outage management, and AMI, deploying new automated equipment in our infrastructure and working with its customers to allow them to have more control on how they handle their energy usage. All of these measures will increase reliability, distribution system efficiency, and reduce customer energy usage.

I wish you all the best as you discuss these issues during your conference stay, and look forward to working as a team in solving our nation's energy need. These are challenging times in the energy business—but together, we will prevail.

Thank you.